

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 804

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 7636

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJ: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. RE COMBS' ARRIVAL, REALIZE TIMING IS VERY TIGHT WITH JULY ORDERS, BUT IT WOULD BE MOST RPT MOST DESIRABLE IF COMBS COULD ARRIVE IN TIME FOR THE JULY 4 RECEPTION. ALMOST ALL CONTACTS IN THE POLITICAL/INTERNAL SECTION WILL BE AT THE RECEPTION, THEREFORE IT WILL PROVIDE AN EXCELLENT VEHICLE FOR MAKING INITIAL INTRODUCTIONS, WHICH CAN BE FOLLOWED UP LATER. LEVITSKY WOULD STILL BE HERE AND HIS MAKING INTRODUCTIONS WOULD BE HELPFUL IN PROVIDING ACCEPTABLE "STAMP OF APPROVAL" FOR COMBS.

2. ASSUME YOU ALREADY HAVE MOSCOW 7628 REPORTING REFUSAL OF CLEARANCE FOR C-141. AIR ATTACHE IS TRYING TO ARRANGE FOR C-118 FOR AMBASSADOR'S SCHEDULED DEPARTURE IN CASE APPEAL TO KORNIYENKO TO NO AVAIL. IT OF COURSE WILL NOT ACCOMMODATE CARGO SCHEDULED FOR SHIPMENT. ALTHOUGH WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR C-141 WITH SOVIETS, WOULD BE USEFUL TO KNOW WHETHER C-135 WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR AMBASSADOR'S RETURN FLIGHT TO MOSCOW AND WHETHER IT WOULD ACCOMMODATE CARGO. IF ONLY C-141 CAN ACCOMMODATE CARGO AND SOVIETS PERSIST IN REFUSAL, IS SURFACE SHIPMENT FEASIBLE AND UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS?

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3. RE CONSUL GENERAL TITLE FOR GROSS, WE NO LONGER HAVE

ON FILE 1968 REFERENCE CABLE CITED IN STATE 125597.
HOWEVER, IT SEEMS TO US THAT THIS MATTER IS NOT PROPERLY
SUBJECT TO BILATERAL AGREEMENT SINCE PRESUMABLY SENDING
STATE HAS RIGHT TO ACCORD ANY TITLE IT WISHES. SOVIETS,
AFTER ALL, DO NOT ASK US IF THEY CAN ACCREDIT SECOND
MINISTER-COUNSELOR OR 18 COUNSELORS. THEY SIMPLY SEND
OFFICERS AND NOTIFY US OF THEIR TITLES. GALISHNIKOV'S
PREDECESSOR IN SOVEMBASSY WASHINGTON WAS CALLED CONSUL
GENERAL, AT LEAST INFORMALLY, ALTHOUGH I AM NOT CERTAIN
THAT PROTOCOL WAS FORMALLY NOTIFIED OF THIS DESIGNATION.
FOR THESE REASONS, OUR INCLINATION WOULD BE NOT TO DISCUSS
MATTER WITH MFA IN ADVANCE, BUT SIMPLY TO GIVE GROSS THE
TITLE AND WHEN HE ARRIVES NOTIFY MFA THAT HE IS COUNSELOR
OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS AND CONSUL GENERAL. IF YOU FEEL
STRONGLY THAT WE SHOULD INDEED TAKE UP MATTER IN ADVANCE,
PLEASE LET US KNOW.
STOESSEL

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